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1794. *Nov. 21.* (Ruston ; and 7 others.)

A paper on the mode most easily and effectually practicable of drying up the marshes in the maritime parts of North America, by T. Wright, Lic. Coll. Surg. Dublin, was read.

A letter and paper “containing an analytical view of all the late curious & useful discoveries & inventions relating to the arts, made in France since the commencement of the revolution,” from “M. Alex. Lerebours lately from Paris,” was read. “He also laid before the Society for their perusal a number of pamphlets on the same subjects.”

1794. *Dec. 5.* (Ewing, Andrews, McKean, Parke, Magaw, Peale, Dr. Barton, Patterson.)

Act of Incorporation, &c., of the Massachusetts Historical Society from Mr. Hazard.

1794. *Dec. 26.* (Rittenhouse and 14 others.)

Ed. Bancroft’s Experimental Researches concerning the philosophy of permanent colors ; and a Treatise on Magnetism, &c., by Ralph Walker, of Jamaica, presented.

Magellanic Premium. The officers having recommended the Paper on an Elevator (Nititor [*sic*] in ardua virtus) “the votes were taken by ballot on this performance which was crowned with a majority of votes in its favour. The sealed letter containing the author’s name was then opened, when it appeared that Nicholas Collin, of Philadelphia, was the author.”

1795. *Jan’y 2.* (Rittenhouse, Williams, Davidson, Dr. Barton, W. Barton, Vaughan, Peale, Ellicot, Collin and Patterson.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President—Rittenhouse.

Vice-Presidents—Collin, Ruston, Wistar.

Secretaries—Barton (W), Bleakley, Magaw, Patterson.

Councillors—Smith (W.), Smith (J. B.), Currie, White.

Curators—Barton (B. S.), Parke, Peale.

Treasurer—Vaughan.

1795. *Jan'y* 16. (Collin, McKean, Boardley, Page, Ruston, Ellicot, Dr. Barton, Magaw, Davidson, Peale, Patterson, Nicholson and Moreau de St. Mery.)

[M. de St. Mery presented to the Society four wooden locks used by the country people of St. Domingo—hair and stone balls taken from animals—an Oriental bezoir—ebony and cochenille [*sic*] from Hispaniola—petrefactions from Martinique—small whale-tooth—cocoanut—copper and iron ores from the Pyrenees—a little idol from Hispaniola—insects—and a medal of Louis XVI, July 17, 1789.]

The Annals of the Society of Scots Antiquaries, and a copy of their Minute book, sent by the Earl of Buchan with thanks for his election. “Also a cast representing . . . himself.”

Election of six new members: Earl of Dundonald; S. Wheeler, of Philadelphia; Tim. Pickering, Secretary of War, United States; Robert Leslie, watchmaker, of Philadelphia, now at London; Gustaf Von Carleson, Sweden; Revd. Val. Melscheimer, of Hanover, Pennsylvania.

Nicholson and Patterson to audit Treasurer's accounts.

1795. *Feb'y* 6. (Collin, Williams, Ellicott [*sic*], Ruston, McKean, Buchanan, Andrews, Wistar, Peale, M. de St. Mery, W. Barton, Patterson.)

Bust of Rittenhouse. “A letter from Mr. Cerrachi [first spelled Cerachie & then erased] accompanying a bust in marble of the President of the Society executed by Mr. Cerachi [*sic*] [first spelled Cerachie & then erased] & by him presented to the Society was received.”

Council recommended that measures be taken to publish soon papers on hand, and “in future . . . an annual publication of their Transactions without regard to size.”

Also . . . “to allot . . . a certain sum to be disposed of in premiums to the authors of the best essays or performances on certain specific subjects of useful Knowledge to be proposed annually by the Society.”

Both recommendations adopted, and the Council (or any five of them) to report at the first meeting in March on the papers on hand.

Premiums: Williams, Ellicot, Barton, Ruston, Wistar, Patterson, St. Mery, Collin, Peale, Magaw, W. Barton, and Nicholson, a Committee to inform themselves of the state of the Society's funds and report: "1. What premiums the Society can consistently offer. 2. What subjects of useful knowledge shall at present be proposed as objects of these premiums."

St. Mery presented a silver medal of Louis XV., struck on the occasion of the peace of 1763.

Two elegant specimens of printing in gilt letters: 1. A part of Magna Charta on Satin; 2. The Dream of Scipio on deep green satin paper, from Mr. Jno. Beckley.

1795. *Feb'y* 20. (Ruston, McKean, Ellicott, Dr. Barton, J. B. Smith, Williams, St. Mery, Patterson.)

"The Committee of twelve" was continued.

1795. *March* 6. (Ruston, Collin, Magaw, Wistar, J. B. Smith, Ellicott, Bleakley, St. Mery, Nicholson, W. Barton, Patterson, Thornton, Williams, Nassey.)

"On a more effectual way of extinguishing fire" by Sieur Varle, was read.

The Committee of twelve reported several subjects from which the Society selected:

"1. An essay on a system of liberal education & literary instruction, adapted to the genius of the government, & best calculated to promote the general welfare of the United States:—Comprehending also, a plan for instituting & conducting public schools in this country on principles of the most extensive utility.

"2. An improvement on ship-pumps.

"3. The most economical method of warming rooms.

"4. The easiest & most expeditious method of computing the longitude from lunar observation.

"5. The best essay on American vegetable dies.

"6. The best method of preserving Peach trees from premature decay."

W. Barton, Wistar, Collin, Peale, Patterson, to prepare a draft of the premiums "on the above subjects with the respective terms & conditions on which they will be awarded."

1795. *March* 20. (Wistar, Ellicott, Vaughan, Peale, Barton, Currie, St. Mery, Patterson.)

Rediger's account £2 · 6 · 3 passed.

Account from the estate of Thos. Clifford, deceased. £14 · 17 · 6 presented and passed.

1795. *April* 3. (Collin; *Maddison* [*sic*], Bleakley, W. Barton, Ellicott, Barton, Patterson.)

"On wool-bearing animals, by Prof. Anderson of Edinburgh," read. A shawl made of the wool of the common goat of Russia presented.

"On the aberration, nutation and semi-annual equation of the stars, with a number of misc. astro. obs. by M^r. A. Ellicot [*sic*] was read."

1795. *April* 17. (Collin, Nancarrow and 10 others present.)

Memoirs American Academy Arts and Sciences, Vol. II, Part I, received. Exchange of Transactions American Philosophical Society, Vol. III, ordered.

Weights and Measures. "A number of printed reports presented to the National Convention of France, with a decree of the Convention, on the subject . . . presented by M^r. Rich. Smith of this city." Adjourned to Thursday evening.

1795. *April* 23. [*Special*.] (Collin, Pettit, Ellicott, Magaw, Barton, Wistar, Nancarrow, St. Mery, Peale, Bleakley, Patterson.)

Committee on Premiums (March 6) reported; but their being no quorum for business, it was deferred.

1795. *May 1.* (Parke, Currie, Wheeler, Andrews, Blackwell, and 16 others present.)

The Committee's report was considered and adopted :

1. On Education \$100. Papers rec^d up to Jan. 1, 1797.

2. On Longitude \$70. "The particular view of the Society in proposing this subject, is, that the solution of this most useful problem may, if possible, be rendered so plain & easy as to be readily learned by every mariner, even of moderate capacity, who understands the common rules of arithmetic; and thus be introduced into general practise." Papers rec^d up to May 1, 1796.

3. On Ship-pumps \$70. "Improvements that may be readily applied to the ship-pump in common use will be most likely to be adopted by seamen" Papers rec^d up to April 1, 1796.

4. "For the best construction of stoves or fireplaces—a premium of \$60. The principal end in view is the benefit of the poorer class of people, especially of such as live in towns or other places where fuel is dear. . . . The stove should be cheap & of durable materials; should afford the necessary degree of a salubrious & durable heat, with the least expence of fuel possible; & should be capable of being employed both for the purpose of warming the room & cooking provisions for the family.

"The Society have been informed that stoves made of brick are, in many respects, superior to those made of metal; especially in the saving of fuel, and preserving a more equable degree of heat." Papers rec^d up to Jan. 1, 1797.

5. On Preservation of Peach trees \$60;—up to Jan. 1, 1798.

6. On American vegetable dies, "accompanied with an accurate account or description of the vegetables employed \$90." Papers rec^d up to Feby 1, 1798.

7. "For the best construction, or improvement of lamps, especially for lighting the Streets, \$50." Papers rec^d up to July 1, 1796.

General conditions.—1. Name & residence in a sealed letter, only to be opened if successful.—2. Nothing already patented or rewarded entitled to a premium.—3. Money, or a gold or silver medal, optional with the candidate.—4. Right reserved to adjudge a part only of the premium money, for an essay of "no merit above what may have been already published on the subject. The candidates may however be assured that the Society will always judge liberally of their several claims."

1795. *May 15.* (Collin and 8 others.)

"On the expansion of wood by heat" by Rittenhouse, read.

"An authentic picture of Copernicus" on the lid of "a

box of Yew ;” “and on the inside one of Napier ;” sent by the Earl of Buchan ; who “consecrates this curious piece of furniture to the Society ; desiring however that Dr. Rittenhouse should have the use & custody of it during his life, producing it occasionally when he thinks proper.”

Dr. Dan. Gross of New York, sent a copy of his Principles of Rectitude. Memoirs Royal Astronomical Society, Turin, Vol. V (1790–1) received. Transactions American Philosophical Society, Vol. III, ordered sent in return.

Mr. Peale received permission to exhibit the Rittenhouse bust at the Exhibition of the American Academy of Arts, “on his obtaining the consent of the President.”

1795. *June 19.* (Ruston, Hazard, W. Barton, Nancarrow, Duffield, Barton, Nassey, St. Mery, Bleakley, Beauvois, Patterson.)

Mease on Hydrophobia ; Mosely on West India diseases, and on Coffee (fifth edition) ; Caldwell’s translation of Blumenbach’s Institutes received.

Essay on Ship-pumps ; for the prize ; *A. L. O. T. A.*

Dr. Nassey wrote that he intended returning to Surinam, and wished to be useful to the Society there.

“An easy way of determining the true place of a planet . . . directly from the mean anomaly by converging series” by Rittenhouse, was read.

An Inaug. Diss. on the *Phytolaria decandria* (Pond weed) by Dr. B. Schultz, was received.

1795. *July 17.* (Ruston and 8 others.)

Communications read :

Additional Observations on wool-bearing animals and sample of a West India sheep’s wool ;

“Heads of a plan for establishing a universal written language” with books ; also—

Samples of East Indian areca nuts ; some of which were

given to Bartram's garden & some planted by Dr. Collin in his own; from Dr. Anderson, of Colefield, near Leath.

Ebeling's U. S. Geography, Vol. II. Thanks ordered to Anderson, and to Ebeling.

"Improvement on Ship-pumps" for the premium. Signature *Clesebes*.

1795. Aug. 21. (Peale; and 6 others.)

A new and easy way of calculating logarithms; a paper from Rittenhouse.

Additional observation on preventing the decay of Peach trees in a letter from H. Guest, of Brunswick; also on the use of leather for shingling roofs and for copper in sheathing ships' bottoms.

A Meteorological instrument, wheel barometer ("the tube broken"), thermometer and hygrometer combined, was sent by Ch. Goring, of London. Thanks ordered.

Lorimer's (of London) Essay on Magnetism, from the author, and Cowley's Solid Geometry, from the editor, Jones, of London; also Jones' description of a new portable Orrery. Thanks ordered.

Special meeting of officers called for second Friday, September 7 P. M.

Description of a new plant, *Heterandra uniformis*, found near Philadelphia, by Mr. Beauvois, read.

1795. Sep. 18. (Beauvois, Barton, Vaughan, Peale, Wistar, Patterson.)

Communications for the Magellanic premium.

On prevention of premature decay of Peach trees; *Modestus*. Improvement of Ships' windlasses; *Americus*.

Carré's Essay on the Natural History of St. Domingo, from the author. Mr. Bleakley was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the above donations.

Officers ordered to report list of papers worthy to be published in Vol. IV.

The officers having met September 11, and recommended as an immediate step toward publishing a contract with some printer “to execute the work without any expence to the Society—he delivering to the Society a certain number of copies to be distributed as donations to other similar Societies and the Society transferring to him a *copyright* to the publication. The above recommendation was agreed to, & the Treasurer, Mr. Vaughan, was appointed to receive proposals & report”

1795. Oct. 2. (Peale; Currie, St. Mery, Magaw, Bleakley, Barton, Beauvois, Patterson.)

Officers reported a list of papers for publication, and it was filed with the papers. The following new communications were read:

An inquiry into the causes of the unwholesomeness of low & marshy situations, by Dr. Currie.

An account of an American Dipus or Jerboa, by Dr. Barton.

St. Mery presented Vol. VI, Laws of St. Domingo.

1795. Oct. 16. (9 present.)

Stewart and Cochran's bill for printing at different times 4000 blank notices, £4 .. 6 .. 3, allowed.

Further observation on the preservation of Peach trees, and on sundry other subjects in another letter from H. Guest, of Brunswick.

On hearths; for the premium. [No signature given.]

1795. Nov. 6. (Collin, Barton, Currie, Peale, Patterson.)
Fulham's Essay on Combustion, &c., presented.

1795. Nov. 20. (Wistar, Williams, Nancarrow, Ellicott, Peale, Bleakley, Patterson.)

On the barometrical measurement of the Blue Ridge,

Warm Spring and Alleghany Mountains, in 1791, with a journal of observations, by Jon. Williams, read.

Specification of a machine for spinning flax, hemp or tow, by Peter Craig, read.

Spanish translation of Williams' Use of the Thermometer in Navigation (Transactions American Philosophical Society, Vol. III), with a review of it by one of the Directors of the Marine Academy of Spain, presented. Also Jones' pamphlet on various methods of finding a true meridian line.

1795. Dec. 4. (Collin, Parke, Barton, Currie, Ellicott, Peale, Patterson.)

Cases of cure; two letters from Henry Guest, read.

Miscellaneous Observations on the Western countries, particularly in the neighborhood of Lake Erie; paper from Ellicott [*sic*], read.

On hoar frost; paper by Dr. Caldwell, Philadelphia, read.

1795. Dec. 18. (Parke, Barton, Ellicott, Dr. Stevens, Bleakley, J. B. Smith, Patterson.)

Cases of cure; letter from Henry Guest, read.

Effects of heat and vitiated air in the production of diseases; paper from Dr. W. Barnwell, Philadelphia, read.

1796. Jan'y 1. (Rittenhouse, and 10 others.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President—Rittenhouse.

Vice-Presidents—Collin, W. Smith, C. Wistar.

Curators—Peale, B. S. Barton, Parke.

Councillors—Blackwell, McKean, Davidson, Kuhn.

Secretaries—Magaw, W. Barton, Bleakley, Patterson.

Treasurer—Vaughan.